

church; the cottages have timbered fronts and thatched roofs; and long, low, white houses, set in gardens, remind one of the existence of that "endless English comfort" which appeals especially to the wayfarer. The churchyard was full of scarlet anemones and purple honesty—this last suggestive of many trains of thought. Surrounded by an old stone seat, a great grey Ionic Cross has been set up, and round all is written, "Take time in time—ere time be stint." The interior of the church is remarkable for the old Jacobean pew, upraised above the chancel, and belonging to the reigning family. It is a little sad to think that even in church some would choose in olden times to seclude themselves while professedly at "public worship." The screen is new, but built with a real rood gallery, as undoubtedly was it once before, for the stone stairway and opening are there as of yore. The two wondered if the Gospel were ever read from it now to the listening people beneath. The walk back was very magical and mysterious; the moon was full, and it was getting dusk, and when they paused to rest by a stile, a nightingale sang to them from the copse. The way led back along the King's Lane, through a chase belonging to Mereworth Park. It was the very spot for ghosts and spirits; a dark avenue of pine trees, called the "Lord's walk," opened upon their way; far off in the distance gleamed the chalk pits on the hills, and beneath their feet was the ashy white road and sheets of pallid primroses. And so home, singing along the road, to bed.

On the last morning the two explored "Sir William's Hill." There they found a newly-felled plantation and many treasures coming up. Adoxia made a carpet like moss, and tway-blade and ransoms were nestling their leaves beneath the ash stumps. That night the moon put on a domino and was eclipsed, and the two wandered forth after dinner to see her. She was still white and fair, but only her chin was visible; the upper part of her face was shrouded. The veil was gradually lifted, until by ten o'clock she shone, round and glorious, to bid them good-bye. By breakfast the next morning the two had torn themselves away, leaving the lambs in the orchard, the swan on the river, the wren that woke them by singing so sweetly of a morning, and the other delights of the open country.

Now-a-days, in the work-a-day facts of the summer, they

will have much to remember—the saffron butterflies who played round them one morning, the scent of the larch trees, the whiteness of the burgeoning beam-trees, and the miles of white roads along which they swing by moonlight. When those who work crave for rest, they should go out into the open country and watch God's work in the spring, and go on their way filled with peace.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—I am requested by "the two" to say that if any other students at any time feel inspired to follow their example, they most cordially recommend the Moated Grange, whose real name is Broomscroft Cottage, Watlington. They were lodged and boarded and most kindly looked after, for 15s. a week each. It is three-quarters of a mile from Watlington Station, on the S.E.R. line, between Maidstone and Tonbridge, close to the Church, and there is very good boating to be had on the river, and good cycling roads.

## AN INVALID SCHOOL.

In *The Times* of September 26th, 1901, there was an article by Mrs. Humphrey Ward, from whom the first impulse to organise the education of crippled children emanated. This article contained an account of how and where the work was started. There had been, by means of the Invalid Children's Association, much work done in the homes of cripples by visitors, who gave them a certain amount of mental and manual instruction; but it was not until February, 1899, that the pioneer Invalid and Crippled Children's School was opened at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock Place, Bloomsbury. There were other two of the same schools started last year, one in Maida Vale, the other in Bethnal Green.

However, the one of which I am going to write was opened last October in Glasgow. It was modelled on the Tavistock Place School in London, and is at present the only one of



the kind in Scotland. Although Dundee has done much for its crippled children, I do not think there is yet a separate school for such.

As in London, there had been work done among children in their own homes by ladies of Queen Margaret Settlement, for four years previous to last October, and when the idea grew strong enough that much more could be done for these children by gathering them together for regular instruction, information was obtained from Mrs. Humphrey Ward, and it was determined to start a school on the lines of hers. The School Board was then approached, with the result that it agreed to supply a teacher for a special school in connection with Finnieston Public School. The Settlement on its part agreed to give its premises (which are used in the evening for girls' clubs, etc.). There is a large airy hall for a schoolroom; another as large, used as a romping and play-room during the mid-day interval; a third fitted up with swings, which are a boon and a blessing at any odd moments, and a fourth where they have dinner.

The provisions of the Defective and Cripple Children's Act (which call upon the school authority to provide guides or conveyances for these children) are confined to England and Wales, and so means of conveying the children to and from school had to be obtained by private enterprise. A gift of an ambulance van, fitted with two stretchers and seats for eight or ten children was made to the Settlement. The horse and man are supplied by the Children's League of Kindness, which also pays the salary of the trained nurse, who attends to the children, dresses wounds, etc. The Settlement supervises the provision of volunteer teachers to assist the certificated one supplied by the School Board. Once a month the children are medically examined by the Settlement Doctor, Dr. Marion Gilchrist. There are more than 30 children on the roll, with an average daily attendance of 22; ages 6 to 16. Besides the usual schoolroom furniture there are cane arm chairs with leg rests, and adjustable supports for slates, etc., and cane couches, on which those suffering from spinal or heart weakness may recline when tired. These were supplied by the School Board.

The van and nurse start at 8-30, and make two rounds, covering a circuit of about two miles. The first van-load, with the older pupils, arrives shortly after nine. Between

then and ten, when the second van-load arrives, the children have a Scripture class and sew or knit and sing. At ten all the pupils start work and continue till twelve, when they have dinner, for which they pay 1½d. At 10-45 there is a break of 15 minutes, when they have cod liver oil, followed by a toffee drop and a mug of milk, for which they pay 2d. a week. This weekly 2d. and daily 1½d. cover all the expenses of actual feeding, but not of fuel for cooking and service, which are supplied by the Settlement. There is a marked improvement in most of the children, physically and mentally, due to the good, regular feeding; and at the Tavistock Place School, where the experiment of giving richer and more varied food was made, the improvement was noticeably still greater in a very short time.

The nurse presides at dinner aided by two or three volunteer helpers, who play with the children afterwards till 1-30, when the afternoon's work begins. Then they do all sorts of handicrafts, clay modelling, basket making, paper weaving, etc. At 3-0 or 3-30 the van takes the first batch of tired but happy mites home. I have heard several of them say how they dislike holidays, and how they love school, and no wonder when one hears of their home surroundings, doubly hard for such as they. Some of them come from such distinguished-sounding places as Cheapside and Piccadilly. I never knew before there *were* such streets in Glasgow, but they are so narrow that the van can only just squeeze through, and correspondingly squalid.

I was at the door this morning when the last van-load arrived, and as soon as the door was opened some of the children skipped out. They are wonderfully agile in spite of being bent and crippled by rickets, spinal curvature, hip joint disease, etc. But out they jumped looking as merry as any children all the world over—one little girl was looking laughingly down from the stretcher, and handing hats down from the one opposite her, which I expect had been thrown up there in fun by the others. One quite forgets they are in any way crippled or invalid, they are so very cheery.

I have had a class of two boys on Monday and Tuesday mornings. They are both very intelligent, to teach whom is a pleasure.

The object of the enterprise is not only to brighten their lives and make the conditions of school-life easy for them,



but also to fit them, as far as possible, to become self-supporting members of the community. The manual training given helps specially in this direction, as it is that kind of work which will be best suited to them afterwards. One boy, with one leg crippled, but otherwise as hale and lusty as possible, has already been apprenticed to a shoemaker, and one of my boys says he is going to be a tailor. In cases where the manual dexterity was very marked, they might be apprenticed to watchmakers, etc.

During the mid-day interval they play with their toys, romp about, and have stories read or told to them. In fine weather they play outside. I have sometimes had the "Babies" to teach, and the School Board method of learning to read is *too* funny. What would the "Practising School" and its inmates have been reduced to, if, from between the piano and the fireplace, there had issued this sweet chorus:—"a—t, at; a—t, at; a—t, at; h—a—t, hat; h—a—t, hat; h—a—t, hat.

a—d, ad; a—d, ad; a—d, ad: m—a—d, mad; m—a—d, mad; m—a—d, mad."

Do you not think we *would* have gone m—a—d, mad.

M. M. K.

NOTE.—I should have mentioned that mentally-defective children are not received as pupils, but there is a special class for them in the adjoining Public School.

## SIDE LIGHTS ON THE STUDENTS.

### I.—FROM THE THE SISTER'S POINT OF VIEW.

"That," said she, pouncing upon it with avidity, "is the first specimen of its kind I have seen this year." She pulled it up and placed it amongst the bunch of rapidly-dying flowers and weeds which she held in her left hand. I do not know what its name was. I never inquired, but it smelt foully.

All along the route of our (to me) never-ending walk, she had been darting ecstatically at some unobtrusive root or berry which I should never have noticed, and I fear (for she made me share her burden) our ultimate entry into the town must have been at least picturesque. Twin Ophelias, one with the madness of the botanist in her eye, the other with the dull light of despair—for I had on town boots.

But two days previously, my sister had returned from Ambleside, her training over, and behold! she was a new person and I knew her not.

For one thing, she knew everything. It was not that she thought she did; she did, and she gave her opinions. She seemed to have an intimate acquaintance with every book ever written and its author, but she brought with her, among others, two which were specially holy and sacred in her eyes. One, a fat red one, which was her creed. A creed which takes two whole years to learn. She was not selfish, only most ready and willing to unfold its bewildering theories to any who looked like possible disciples.

The other book was green. It consisted of pages of drawing paper only, and was, I imagine, a book of private confessions for merely personal perusal. I say this because, on glancing at it one day, inadvertently, I came upon a dated page upon which were the words "I saw a hedgehog to-day"—this and no more; underneath was a painting of the hedgehog. In this case I do not think my sister need have blamed herself severely. I should have run away myself if it looked like that. As the days passed on and her holiday lengthened, every day brought home to me more forcibly my inadequacy on intellectual lines. I found it such a terrible effort to keep up conversations with her—she knew so vastly more than I did on every given